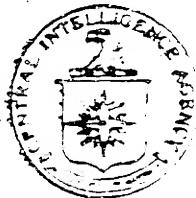


DSS 25

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

*Memorandum*



THE CRISIS  
USSR/CUBA

Information as of 0600C

16 Nov. 1962

REF ID: A6561336

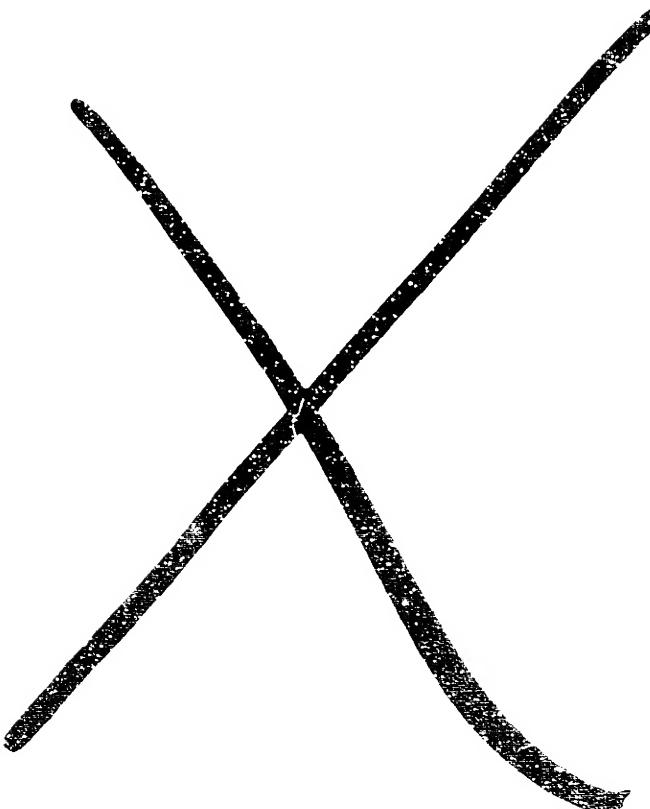
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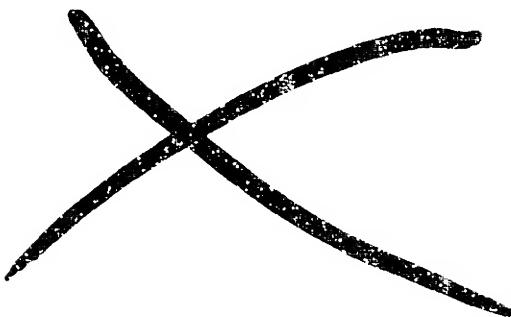
16 November 1962

THE SITUATION IN CUBA



Castro's 15 November letter to U Thant, warning that US planes violating Cuban airspace risk being downed, now has been made public by the Cubans. It is couched in strong terms but makes a bid for support from small countries and nonaligned nations. Castro used the recent arrest of alleged CIA agents in Cuba to charge that "photographs taken by the spying planes serve for guidance for sabotage." He declared that no sovereign state can allow its airspace to be violated in this manner and that Cuba is "defending the right of small nations to be considered on a footing of equality."

BLOC POSITIONS AND STATEMENTS



The Peking press charges today that Vice President Johnson's Chicago speech of 14 November "gave away the box" of Kennedy's "assurances" against an invasion of Cuba. Peking also says that State Department press officer Lincoln White indicated on the same day as Johnson's speech that the US will interfere with Cuba's construction of fishing ports.